# Reaching Higher in a State of Change

2021 Implementation Plan

Stephanie Sample, Associate Commissioner for Strategy & External Affairs Liz Walker, Director of Strategic Initiatives & Convenings

February 11, 2021

#### TIMELINE

- December: Preview 2020 report card with full Commission
- January-February: Finalize 2020 report card elements
- **February: Present the 2021 Implementation Plan**
- March: Preview designed report with Commission members
- ► April: Publicly release the first annual *Reaching Higher in a State of Change* report card (before the H. Kent Weldon Conference on Friday, April 9)
- Mid-Year: Provide update on 2021 implementation
- December: Provide 2021 implementation summary at the December meeting



### BACKGROUND & OVERVIEW

- 2020: 21 Action Items vs. 2021: 15 Action Items
- Many of the blueprint action items included in the 2020 Implementation Plan are ongoing.
- ► This leaves 19 action items in the strategic plan blueprint, which will be our focus items for 2022.
- Proposed refresh of full plan during 2022, adjusting narrative and adding new action items to the blueprint.
- ► The blueprint action items presented for 2021 Implementation are "as written" in 2019, and plenty has changed.



REACHING HIGHER IN A STATE OF CHANGE

## 2021 BLUEPRINT



#### **PATHWAYS & TRANSITIONS**

Action Item	<u>Notes</u>
Encourage two-year institutions to reconfigure programs so learners are enrolled in, complete and are awarded certificates as they continue toward their associate degree.	<ul> <li>Underway with many Workforce Ready Grant programs</li> <li>Need baseline for other associate degrees</li> </ul>
Increase the number of summer bridge and other programs that help students transition from secondary to postsecondary education and combat summer melt.	<ul> <li>Several initiatives underway that address summer melt in response to the COVID-19 pandemic</li> </ul>

Action Item	<u>Notes</u>
Increase the number of students earning intentional dual credit in high school.	<ul> <li>Early College Credit Report, Indiana College Core provide opportunities to highlight the importance and value of dual credit</li> </ul>
Increase the number of learners completing college on-time or early.	<ul> <li>On-going effort but particularly important to highlight gaps caused by the COVID-19 pandemic</li> </ul>
Increase the number of employers partnering with postsecondary providers to develop "grow your own" programs for their employees.	<ul> <li>Employer engagement more important than ever</li> <li>Possible with current resources</li> </ul>

Action Item	<u>Notes</u>
Increase the number of active, structured regional efforts integrating employers, educators and community groups to drive postsecondary completion.	<ul> <li>Coordinated effort between GWC, IN Chamber of Commerce, the 21st Century Talent Regions and Rapid Recovery Taskforce</li> </ul>
Expand data in Indiana's College Readiness Reports, working in partnership with the IDOE to include additional postsecondary transitions data.	<ul> <li>Transcript-level data collection for high school students (such as GPA)</li> <li>Can help address learning loss</li> </ul>
Create access to postsecondary opportunities in rural areas through the use of technology, broadband and innovative delivery models.	<ul> <li>Gaps highlighted due to the COVID-19 pandemic</li> <li>Innovative for dual credit teaching</li> </ul>
Work with IEDC, DWD and others to identify future high-potential industries in different regions of the state to help target postsecondary completion in those areas.	<ul> <li>Indiana GPS project with Brookings/AEI</li> <li>EMSI/EQOS project</li> </ul>

#### THE EDUCATOR PIPELINE

Action Item	<u>Notes</u>
Increase the number of Educator Preparation Program (EPP) completions, particularly in high-need subject areas and regions of the state.	<ul> <li>Legislative changes to Next         Generation Hoosier Educator         Scholarship</li> <li>Boost outreach for teacher stipend         targeting high-need fields</li> </ul>
Increase the number of minority learners enrolling in and completing EPPs.	<ul> <li>Increase outreach around minority teaching scholarship</li> <li>Record numbers of Hoosiers applying for minority teacher stipends</li> </ul>



Action Item	<u>Notes</u>
Ensure transferability where there are gaps between institutions and between the K-12 and higher education sectors, particularly for career technical education courses.	<ul> <li>Next Level Programs of Study piloted in 2020</li> </ul>
Ensure quality for non-credit credentials, such as industry certifications, and provide opportunities for non-credit credentials to be recognized and transfer.	<ul> <li>Non-credit to credit-bearing crosswalk to help demonstrate quality for NCB programs</li> </ul>
Expand the collection, analysis and utilization of equity data in each of the Commission's major reports, outreach efforts and financial aid programs.	<ul> <li>Able to incorporate more equity data in CHEDDS 2.0</li> </ul>
Monitor job-placement, wages and retention by degree program to recognize institutions keeping graduates in state, especially in high-priority sectors.	<ul> <li>Consider adjusting language for "job-placement"</li> <li>The in-state retention could align with IEDC initiative</li> </ul>

#### ALIGNMENT & ENGAGEMENT

- State Agencies: Governor's Workforce Cabinet, Indiana Department of Education, Department of Workforce Development, Indiana Economic Development Corporation, Indiana Destination Development Corporation
- Postsecondary Partners: Public Institutions and ICI Institutions
- ► K-12 Educator Partners: Counselors Association, Principals Association, Superintendents Association, Newsletters and Events
- External Partners: Indiana Chamber of Commerce, CICP, Black Expo, Indiana Youth Institute, Indiana Latino Institute, Fairbanks, Lumina, Strada, Lilly, Regional and Community Groups



REACHING HIGHER IN A STATE OF CHANGE

# NEXT STEPS



### THE COMMISSION'S ROLE

- ► The Commission will evaluate and offer recommendations to alter and/or solidify the missions of the institutions that comprise the state's higher education system (began but did not complete in 2020)
- ► The Commission will partner with higher education institutions to project enrollment and completion targets (not addressed in 2020)



### NEXT STEPS

- December-February: Finalize 2020 report card elements
- March: Preview designed report card with Commission members
- ► April: Issue the annual *Reaching Higher in a State of Change* report card (before the H. Kent Weldon Conference on Friday, April 9)
- Mid-Year: Provide update on 2021 implementation
- December: Provide 2021 implementation summary at the December meeting
- Beyond: All action items should be addressed by 2023 "refresh"





### INDIANA COMMISSION for HIGHER EDUCATION